

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #81B-3 Building Date: 1884
Building Name: Thrift Schoolhouse
Location: 11810 Tippet Road, Clinton, Maryland
Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description:

The Thrift schoolhouse is a one-story frame gable-roofed structure, a typical one-room schoolhouse of the late nineteenth century. The principal front is the south, with the entrance centered in the south gable end. The sides of the building are two bays long with 6/6 windows. The building is covered with German siding, painted white; cornerposts, cornices, and door and window surrounds are painted dark green, as is the metal roof. There is a central brick chimney at the ridge; the foundations are brick piers. The original interior consisted of an entry vestibule on the south, with one large classroom taking up the remainder of the space. Modern partitions now divide the vestibule into three sections, in parts of which the old wainscoting survives. The original classroom has been divided into four rooms, and a door has been cut into the north bay of the west facade.

Significance:

The Thrift schoolhouse is one of the oldest surviving schoolhouses in Prince George's County, and, although altered to serve as a dwelling, still retains much of its original appearance. It was built by J.B. Townshend in 1884, and replaced the first schoolhouse (1868) on the same site, a one-acre parcel which had been taken by the Board of School Commissioners from the large Bryan farm. Thrift School was closed in 1909, and sold by the Commissioners; in 1928 it was purchased by Rebecca Berger, and in 1962, the Berger heirs sold ca. 500 acres, including the school lot, to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, to become the Clinton Regional Park. The schoolhouse, soon after its closing, was converted into a dwelling. In spite of these alternations, it still retains the exterior appearance of a typical late nineteenth century schoolhouse. With the exception of the Bladensburg schoolhouse (1873), which no longer retains its schoolhouse appearance, the Thrift school is probably the oldest surviving schoolhouse in Prince George's County.

Acreage: 1.12 acres

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic School #2, Ninth District

and/or common Thrift School House

2. Location

street & number 11810 Tippet Road ___ not for publication

city, town Clinton ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county P.G.

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	___ military
			___ museum
			___ park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			___ religious
			___ scientific
			___ transportation
			___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (tenant: Wilbur Johnson)

street & number 6600 Kenilworth Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Riverdale, state and zip code Md. 20737

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P.G. County Courthouse liber 323

street & number Main Street folio 462

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md.

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title P.G. County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 ___ federal ___ state ☒ county ___ local

depository for survey records History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state Md.

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. 81B-3

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Thrift schoolhouse is a one-story frame gable-roofed structure, a typical one-room schoolhouse of the late nineteenth century. The principal front is the south, with the entrance (a replacement door) centered in the south gable end. The sides of the building are two bays long with 6/6 windows. The building is covered with German siding, painted white; cornerposts, cornices, and door and window surrounds are painted dark green, as is the metal roof. There is a central brick chimney at the ridge; the foundations are brick piers.

The original interior consisted of an entry vestibule on the south, with one large classroom taking up the remainder of the space. After the closing of the school in 1909, it was converted into a residence. Modern partitions now divide the vestibule into three sections, in parts of which the old wainscoting survives. The original classroom has been divided into four rooms, and a door has been cut into the north bay of the west facade.

8. Significance

Survey No. P.G. 81B-3

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
				local history

Specific dates 1884 Builder/Architect J.B. Townshend

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Thrift schoolhouse is one of the oldest surviving schoolhouses in Prince George's County, and although altered to serve as a dwelling, still retains much of its original appearance. The first school on its site was begun in 1868, and was designated School house #2 (for white students) in Surratts District #9. It was constructed on an acre of the Bryan family property, condemned for the purpose of a school site. Susannah Bryan received \$50 in damages in 1872, although the schoolhouse had been completed by February of 1869.¹

Thrift schoolhouse was rebuilt in 1884. A contract for rebuilding the schoolhouse was awarded to J.B. Townshend; at the end of October 1884, Townshend was paid the \$495 which he charged for building the school. It is Townshend's school structure which, with some alterations, stands today.²

During subsequent years, improvements and repairs to Thrift schoolhouse were documented in the School Commissioners journals. In September 1892, Thrift School received \$10 for its library, to match a similar amount already raised. Repairs to the wood house and the schoolhouse itself were ordered in 1903. In 1905, the school trustees were authorized to construct a water closet, and in the same year, a typewriter was purchased for the school, both significant innovations.³

By early 1909, however, consideration was given to the construction of a new school building in another location. A site was chosen on the road between Surrattsville and Piscataway, which was more accessible to the local population, and Thrift school was closed. The schoolhouse and 1.12 acres were sold by the School Commissioners in January 1911 to William Marbury. In 1928, Marbury sold the school lot to Rebecca Berger, who had earlier purchased Bryan Hall, the 769 acre adjoining tract from which the school lot had been taken more than a half century before. All of this land, including the school lot, was conveyed to Mrs. Berger's heirs; they in 1962 conveyed ca. 500 acres of the Berger farm, formerly known as Bryan Hall, to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, to be known as Clinton Regional Park.⁴

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. 81B-3

See notes, Item 8
and chain of title

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.12 acres, part of 474 acre tract

Quadrangle name Piscataway, Section B

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Shirley Baltz/Susan Pearl, Research Historians

organization Historic Preservation Commission

date December 1984

street & number c/o County Planning, MNCPPC

telephone 952-3521

city or town Upper Marlboro,

state Md.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

8. Continued

The schoolhouse itself, soon after its closing, was converted into a residence, and has for nearly 60 years been the home of a family which worked on the Berger farm. In spite of the alterations which have made it a livable dwelling, it still retains the appearance of a typical late nineteenth century schoolhouse. With the exception of the Bladensburg schoolhouse (1873), which no longer retains its schoolhouse appearance, the Thrift school is probably the oldest surviving schoolhouse in Prince George's County.

Notes:

- 1 Journal of the Board of County School Commissioners, Vol. I, p. 12-34
- 2 Ibid pp. 195-204
- 3 Ibid pp. 310, 406, 496; and Vol II
- 4 Journal Vol. II pp. 140-147, p. 176; P.G. County Deed #69:404,
#323:462

1703544904
P.A. 81B-3

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: School House on Thrift Road				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Thrift Road and Tippet Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Clinton				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)				
ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC				
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission				
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>The building is an A-roofed frame structure with the entrance in the gable ends. There are two windows on each sidewall. The chimney is centrally positioned.</p> <p>It is now a residence.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Historic

☐ Agriculture

☐ Architecture

☐ Art

☐ Commerce

☐ Communications

☐ Conservation

☐ Education

☐ Engineering

☐ Industry

☐ Invention

☐ Landscape

☐ Architecture

☐ Literature

☐ Military

☐ Music

☐ Political

☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science

☐ Sculpture

☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater

☐ Transportation

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Other (Specify)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION

M-NCPPC

DATE

1 Aug 74

STREET AND NUMBER:

8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Silver Spring

STATE

Maryland

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

Chain of Title

Thrift Schoolhouse

P.G. #81B-3

#2854:160
19 July 1963
Deed

Olive B. Berger, widow of Andrew Berger, by her attorney, and W.M. Miller and G.B. Berger, Jr., trustees, to M-NCPPC; 250 acres, Parcel B, part of 769-acre tract conveyed to Rebecca B. Berger by #98:463 and including 1.12 acres, Thrift School Lot, conveyed to Rebecca B. Berger by #323:462.

#2348:154
24 June 1959
Deed

Margaret B. Berger, widow of George B. Berger, to Willis M. Miller and George B. Berger, Jr.; conveyance to set up trust for her heirs; her undivided 1/2 half interest in 769 acres acquired by Rebecca B. Berger by #98:463 and 1.12 acres R.B. Berger acquired by #323:462.

#391:188
30 Dec. 1932
Deed

Rebecca R. Berger of Pittsburgh to Andrew B. Berger and Olive, his wife, and George B. Berger and Margaret, his wife; 769 acres known as Bryan Hall and 1.12 acres, the Thrift School Lot; same which grantor acquired by #98:463 and #323:462.

#323:462
19 June 1928
Deed

William L. Marbury and his wife to Rebecca B. Berger; Thrift School Lot containing 1.12 acres; same as grantors acquired by #69:404.

#69:404
31 Jan 1911
Deed

County School Commissioners of Prince George's County to William L. Marbury of Baltimore; 1.12 acres, Thrift School Lot; same which grantors acquired by Writ of Condemnation.

Writ of
Condemnation
21 Mar 1872

County School Commissioners of Prince George's County condemned 1 acre out of the real estate of William Bryan of Richard, left to his widow, Susannah Bryan; "the ground on a part of which stands School House No. 2 in the 9th Election District."

Journal of
Proceedings
(1865-1903)
1/3/1870

Secretary authorized to institute legal proceedings in regard to a school house site near Fendall Marbury's in 9th Election District.

ED 9
ED 5

WARD
0341

PAR. A
7956

O-S

MAP 125-P.110

8512

OUT-
LOT

R-A

RG-81B-3

R-S

ROAD

THRIET

PAR A
P 62

18

R-A

8631

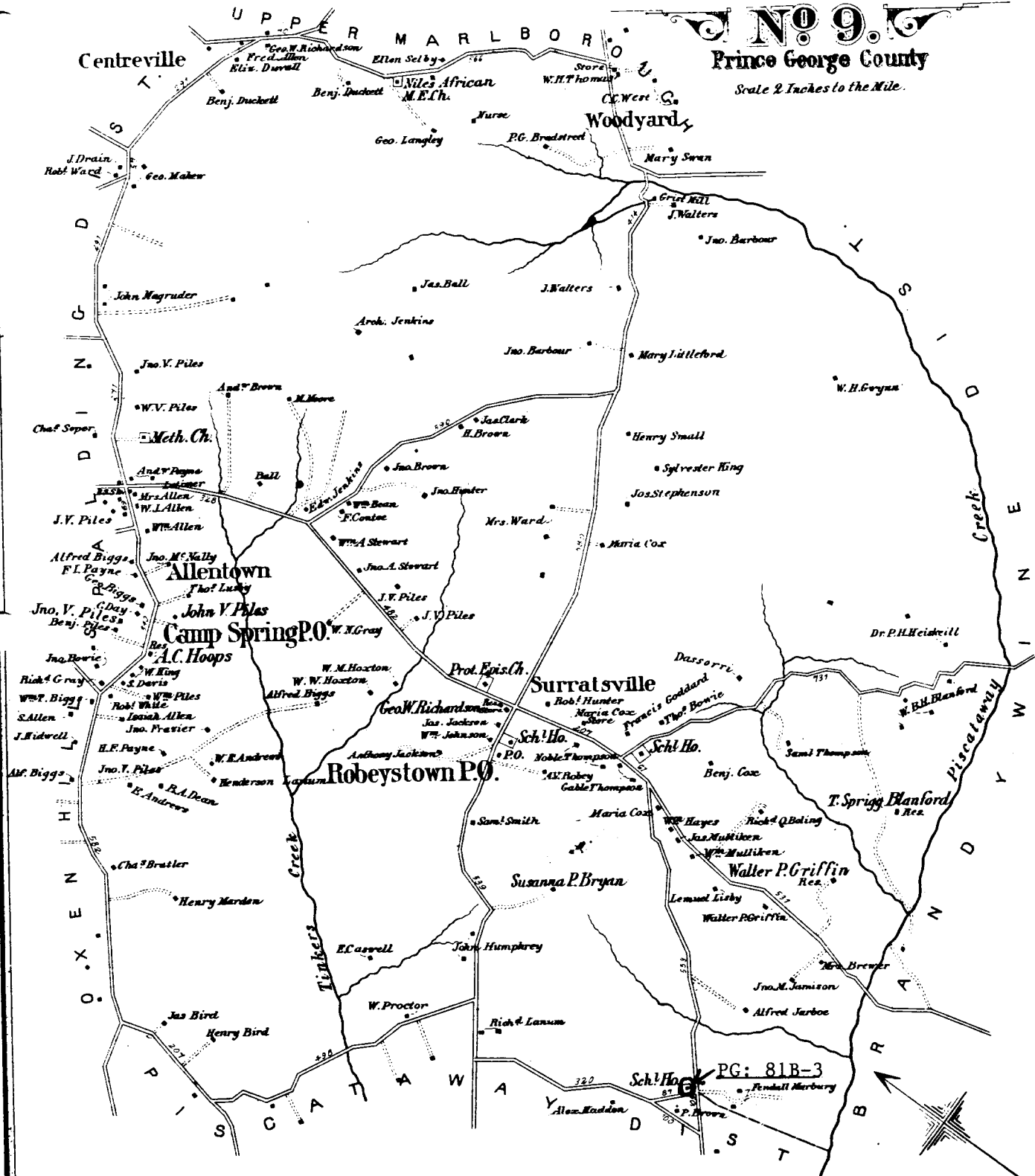
GERALD T. DUNPHY
4900 367
5000A
P 68

SURRATS DIST.

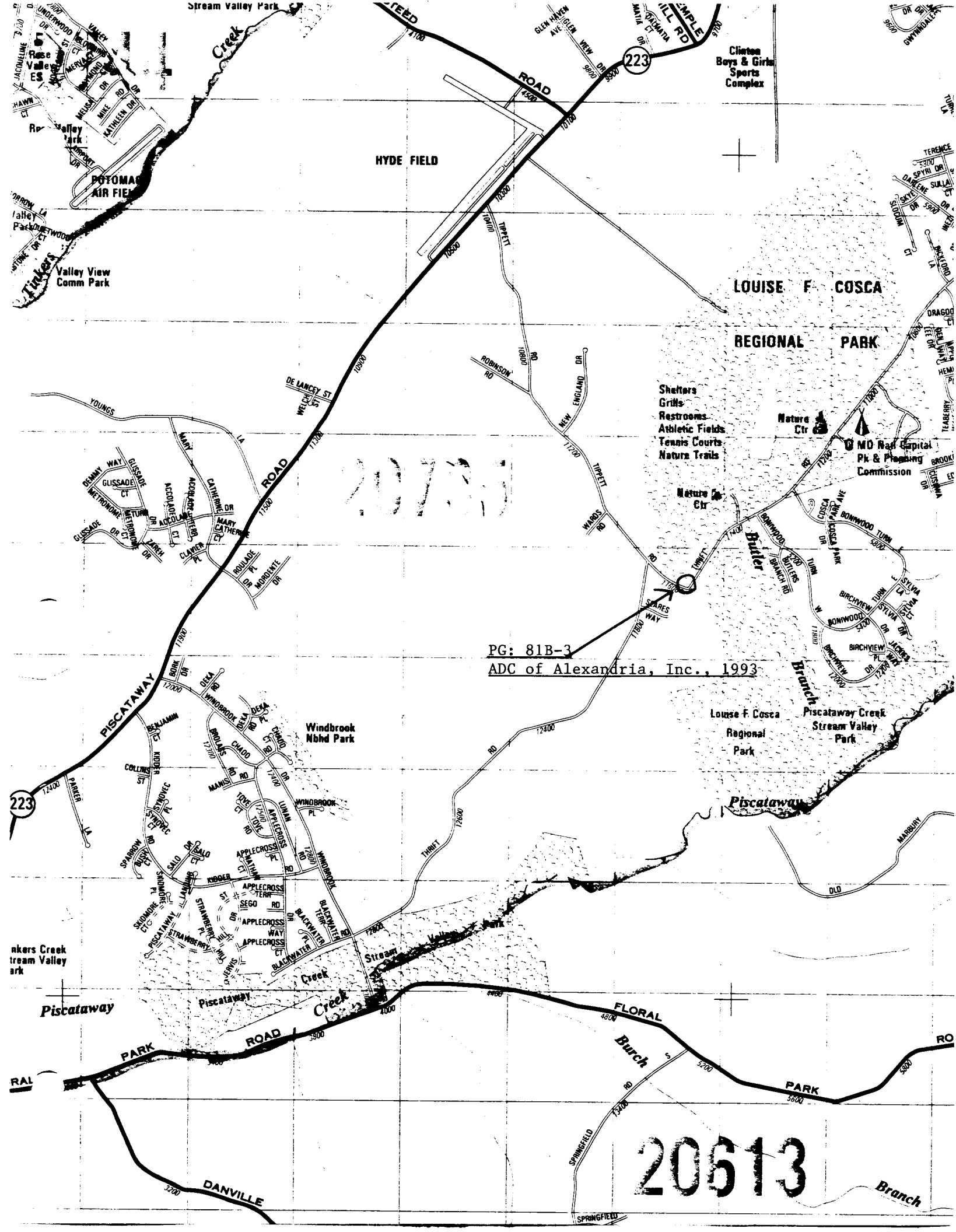
No. 9.

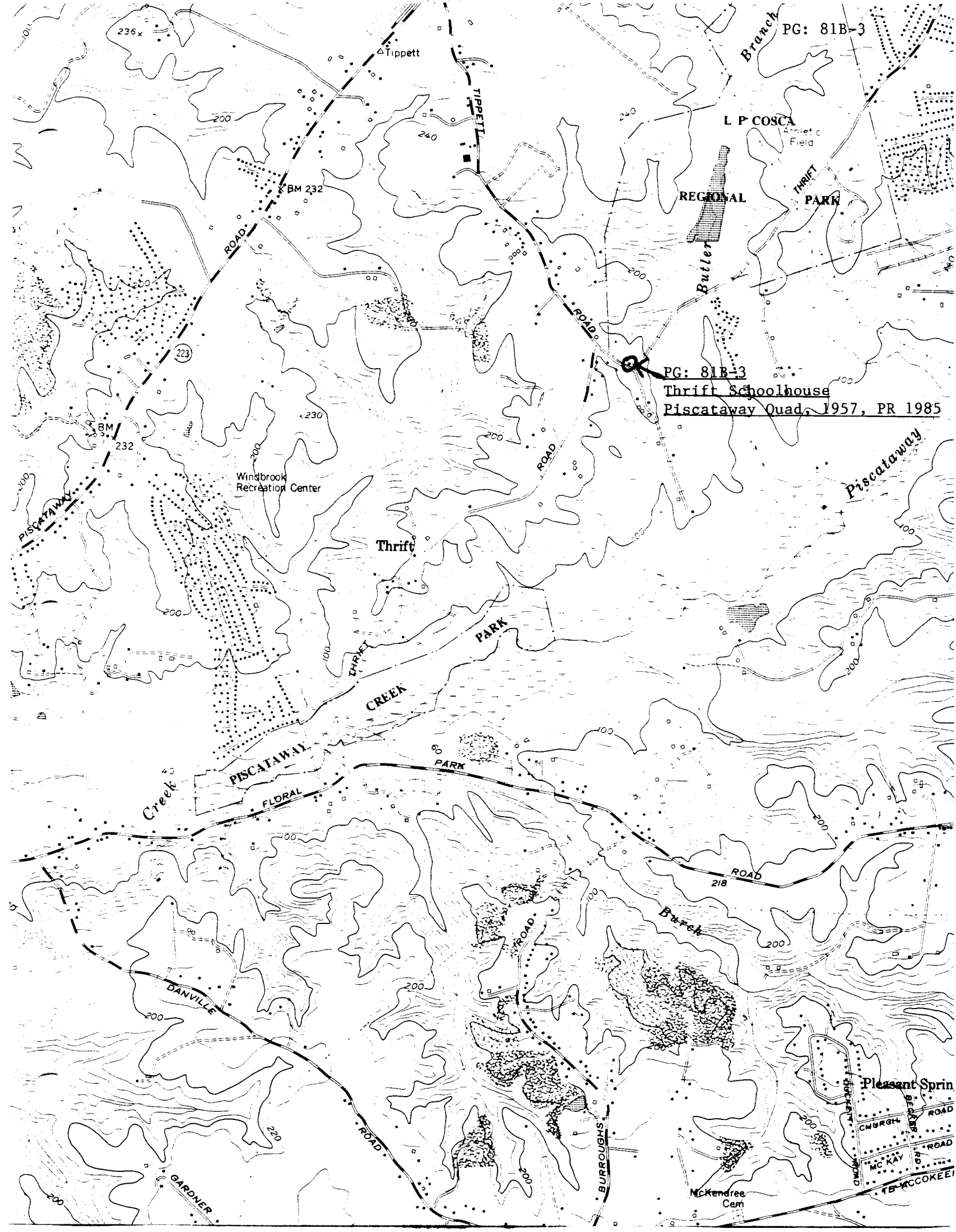
Prince George County

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington D.C.





PG: 81B-3

L P COSCA

REGIONAL

THRIFT

PG: 81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Piscataway Quad, 1957, PR 1985

Thrift

PARK

CREEK

PISCATAWAY

FLORAL

PARK

ROAD

BURROUGHS

DANVILLE

GARDNER

Pleasant Spring

CHURCH

MC KAY

McKendree Cem

TB MCCOKEE



NAME	SCHOOL HOUSE (MNCPPC)	# 81B-3
LOCATION	TIPPLETT + THRIFT Rds. CLINTON, MD	
FACADE	S	
PHOTO TAKEN	8/1/74 MOWYER	



P.G. #81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD.

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Southeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD.



P.G.#81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Southwest 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G.#81B-3

Thrift Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

December 1984

Northeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD